

## Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

### Fire Response Measures - WQCC October 25, 2017

#### Erosion Control/Watershed Rehabilitation

The Lahontan Timber Waiver (R6T-2014-0030) includes Category 3 – Post fire emergency rehabilitation address hazard tree removal and watershed rehabilitation and erosion control measures. The Waiver Category 3 requires notification (project description/location within 7 days of initiating work) and waives monitoring and reporting requirements.

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/water\\_issues/programs/waste\\_discharge\\_requirements/timber\\_harvest/docs/timber\\_waiver/2014tw.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/water_issues/programs/waste_discharge_requirements/timber_harvest/docs/timber_waiver/2014tw.pdf)

Also, Water Board staff worked closely with local governments, the UC Co-op Extension, and the local Resource Conservation Districts and their supporting U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service staff to conduct watershed assessments and develop restoration/erosion control plans for private residences. We look for opportunities to rebuild using Low Impact Development principles and maximizing native vegetation and ecosystem function including wildlife habitat corridors (eliminating fencing, optimizing natural systems including wildlife habitat and improved watershed functions). Consider adjusting building footprints and setbacks. For example, houses could be rebuilt closer to the street to maximize a backyard stream course/floodplain, wildlife corridor, or in another example, a house could be set back further from the road to maximize swales and easements for improved stormwater management.

#### Debris Removal and Disposal

Lahontan Water Board adopted R6V-2015-0009 (updated) Emergency Conditional Waiver of Statutory Requirements to File a Report of Waste Discharge and to Adopt Waste Discharge Requirements for Management and Disposal of Solid Waste from Emergencies and Disasters [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/2015/docs/r6v\\_2015\\_0009\\_disasters\\_waiver.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/board_decisions/adopted_orders/2015/docs/r6v_2015_0009_disasters_waiver.pdf). Our Emergency Conditional Disaster Waiver allows fire debris and other disaster-related debris to be taken to lined Class III landfills, provided the Governor has declared a State of Emergency. In Region 6, these are the authorized landfills: Antelope Valley and Lancaster Landfills in Los Angeles County; and Barstow, Victorville, and Fort Irwin Landfills in San Bernardino County. There is quite a distance from the north part of the Lahontan Region to these landfills in southern California. Landfills authorized to receive hazardous waste are located in Beatty, Nevada or Kettleman City, Ca.

#### Water Quality Analyses

Lahontan Water Board has a commercial laboratory contract and now has full-time Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program staff. We have used these resources to assist in preparing monitoring plans, funding some water quality analyses by other entities collecting samples and conducting limited sampling. Additionally, we were able to modify a Lake Tahoe water quality monitoring contract with UC Davis to conduct specific water quality monitoring to assess potential impacts from the Angora Fire.

#### Defensible Space – with Water Quality Considerations

Lahontan Water Board staff worked with CalFire, and other partners to address defensible space while protecting water quality and riparian areas.

<http://www.fire.ca.gov/communications/downloads/CDFWHY100FEETBROCH2006.pdf>